

fee is enclosed. Please charge any additional fee and credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account 06-1205.

In response to that Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Please further amend the title, to read as follows:

--PRODUCTION APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MAKING CRYSTAL, SUCH AS FLUORIDE CRYSTAL, AND CRUCIBLE FOR USE IN THAT METHOD--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 and 2 as follows:

Sub D1
K1

1. (Twice Amended) A production apparatus for a [fluoride] crystal having a crucible divided in multi-stages, to be used for refining a material in a process for refining the material by adding a scavenger in the material.

C1
K1

2. (Twice Amended) The production apparatus of a [fluoride] crystal according to claim 1, wherein a degassing hole is provided in a side wall portion of the crucible.

Please add Claims 27-35 as follows:

--27. The production apparatus for a crystal according to claim 1, wherein the multi-stages are used in a sequential manner.

28. The production apparatus for a crystal according to claim 1, wherein said crucible has at least two degassing holes in a side wall portion.

29. The production apparatus for a crystal according to claim 1, wherein said crucible has a connecting hole in the bottom center portion, and at least two degassing holes in a side wall portion.

30. The production apparatus for a crystal According to claim 2, wherein the degassing hole has a diameter of 1 to 5 mm.

31. The production apparatus for a crystal according to claim 1, wherein said crucible has a cylindrical shape with the bottom face.

32. The production apparatus for a crystal according to claim 1, wherein said crucible has a 250 mm or more inner diameter.

33. The production apparatus for a crystal according to claim 1, wherein said crucible has a region for mounting a material.

C2
cont
34. The production apparatus for a crystal according to claim 1, having a region obtained by superimposing a plurality of crucibles as the region for receiving a material, and having a crucible without a connecting hole as the lowermost stage.

35. A crystal producing method for producing a calcium fluoride crystal, using the production apparatus according to claim 1.--.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 27-35 are now presented for examination. Claims 3-26 have been withdrawn from consideration, and Applicant hereby affirms his previous